Work turned out by the Conciliation Officers.

9. * **Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of applications for conciliation of debts that have been received by the several Conciliation Officers till 30-1-1118;

(*b*) in how many of them have amicable settlements been effected;

(*c*) how many applications have been rejected;

(*d*) what amount has been spent on account of these offices inclusive of the pay of the officers; and

(*e*) what the revenue is from these offices?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: A statement furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: Does the Government propose to continue the Conciliation Boards?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes, Sir.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know how many certificates have been issued by these Conciliation Boards?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: About six certificates have been issued.

Mr. K. M. Kora: Is there any proposal to extend the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Conciliation Officers?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes, Sir, it is under consideration.

Work assigned to the Director of Public Information.

10. * **Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair:** Will the Government be pleased to state the actual work now assigned to the Director of Public Information?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The Director of Information serves as a link between Government and the Press. He is the channel through which official information is normally given to the Public Press and the trend of public opinion as reflected in the Public Press is reported to Government. He is to issue communiques, press notes, etc, about Government activities and also correct any false information which may appear in the Press. He is entrusted with correspondence relating to newspapers under the Newspapers Regulation and the Copyright Regulation. An important part of his work is to try and secure adequate publicity for the State in India and abroad.

* *Vide* Appendix II Page.—19.]

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The Director of Information will also control and direct the activities of the Government Photographic Department.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know whether the Director of Public Information has got any academic qualification ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: He is an under-graduate.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Is he proficient in Malayalam ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: He knows Malayalam.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Was he an editor of a newspaper ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know the name of the paper ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai I am not able to give the names of the newspapers now, but I know he was on the editorial staff of some papers,

Mr Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Does the Director of Public Information continue to be a correspondent of any British Indian paper ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : No, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Does he continue to supply photos to any British Indian periodicals ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: He takes photos and those photos are available to all newspapers.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Was his recent tour to Simla in connection with his work?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : Yes.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know the amount that was spent in connection with that ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : I claim notice, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know whether it is the work of the Director of Public Information to supply photos to local papers ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : Sir, as I have already stated the photos taken by him are available to all newspapers.

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Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Is the cost of taking these photos defrayed by Government ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Is there any discriminatory power vested in the Director of Public Information in the matter of supplying photos to local periodcals ?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: All papers which want the photos are given copies.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Is there any supervision exercised over him?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: He is working under the direct supervision of the Chief Secretary.

Cardamom lands in the Devicolam Division.

11. ***Mr. K. R. Elenkath**: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of *pattadars* of cardamom lands in the Devicolam Division and the total extent of cardamom lands enjoyed by them ;

(*b*) the number of Travancoreans holding *pattayams* and the extent of land possessed by them out of the above ;

(*c*) the cost of *taravila* per acre of cardamom land ; and

(*d*) the approximate cost of cultivation per acre for getting yield ?

Mr. K. George: (*a*) 3,330.

49,369·48 acres.

(*b*) 127

2,950·415 acres.

(*c*) Bh. Rs. 85 per acre for lands in the Cardamom Hills and Periyar Reserves and Bh. Rs. 60 per acre for lands round about Chinnakanal Thavalam and Pallivasal pakuthi.

(*d*) Between Rs. 75 and Rs. 150 per acre.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: With reference to answer to part (*e*) may I know from the member when were the rules under *taravila* revised last ?

Mr. K. George: The rules were recently revised and published, *i. e.* on September 30, 1935.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know the difference in *taravila* per acre between that which was obtained in 10·5 and now ?

Mr. K. George: I claim notice, Sir.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: With reference to part (*b*) of the answer may I know whether there had been any cases brought to the notice of the Land Revenue Commissioner where lands given in registry to Travancoreans have been sold away by auction for the realisation of the revenue even before they could get any yield from their lands ?

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